

should not be misled. Therefore let a copy of my letter and his letter be placed on the Table of the House and let the House decide whether it is deceitful or not.

Mr. SPEAKER.—It is not in good taste to use such words.

Sri H. M. CHANNABASAPPA.—I withdraw them.

Mr. SPEAKER.—I would like the member to find out whether he has a copy of the letter written by him to the Chief Minister.

Sri H. M. CHANNABASAPPA.—Excuse me, Sir, I have no copy of that letter.

Mr. SPEAKER.—I know the hon. Member is having compilation of all the letters. He may find out, and give me the original tomorrow.

Sri H. M. CHANNABASAPPA.—I have not got my letter. He has a copy. Let him supply it to you and to me.

Mr. SPEAKER.—I request the Chief Minister to give me the necessary information. After taking that into consideration I shall give my ruling.

Sri H. M. CHANNABASAPPA.—When shall I expect your ruling?

Mr. SPEAKER.—Tomorrow I shall get the papers. Now Sri V. N. Patil will proceed to his Calling Attention notice.

Sri T. R. SHAMANNA.—Yesterday you were good enough to promise that you will take up the notice regarding Bangalore Water Supply Tender scandal.

Sri M. NAGAPPA.—I rise to a point of order. You have ruled that once a member is called, he alone can speak. You called Sri V. N. Patil.

Mr. SPEAKER.—I uphold the point of order. Sri Patil will proceed.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]

**Calling Attention to a matter of urgent public importance re: Arbitrary disconnection of the Electricity Service Connections in Humnabad Town.**

Sri V. N. PATIL.—While Calling the Attention of the Chief Minister I would like to state one or two facts so that the Chief Minister will know the points I have in mind. There were more than 15 electricity disconnections in Humnabad Town on the ground that the consumers were defaulters and did not pay the amount. For the last three years they are paying regularly the monthly demand. One consumer has been served with a notice to pay Rs. 800 and in respect of another ordinary shop keeper a demand of Rs. 600 is made in spite of the fact that they are regularly paying. There seems to be something wrong. I want to request the Chief Minister to see that if the consumers are subsequently found due—there was no fault on the part of the consumers—the demand

(SRI V. N. PATIL)

amount should be divided in such a way that it is easy for them to pay. At least in 24 instalments the amounts may be recovered and it should not cause any hardship to the consumers. The second point is till 19th March 1969 the rate was 17 P.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER.—The Member may please read his Call Attention Notice.

SRI VEERENDRA PATIL.—Sir, it is a well established practice that once in response to Call Attention Motion a statement is made by the Minister or the Chief Minister, one or two clarifications are always allowed. We are not shutting it out. The hon. Member has started asking clarifications even before I make a statement. I am prepared to clarify whatever he is asking.

SRI V. N. PATIL.—I call Attention of the Chief Minister to the arbitrary disconnections of the service connections of the electricity in Humnabad Town.

† SRI VEERENDRA PATIL.—It is found out by the Mysore State Electricity Board that the official entrusted with the meter reading in Humnabad town had not actually taken the reading of more than 800 installations for the past one to one and half years. It has been reported that he was in the habit of giving imaginary readings which were far lower than the actual readings. When the above official was replaced by the Board by another Meter Reader during November 1969 and when all the meters were actually read, it was found that each consumer's bill had risen abnormally. The consumers protested to pay such high amounts. The Chief Engineer, Mysore State Electricity Board, who visited Humanabad on the 17th instant has given instructions to allow time to consumers to pay the arrears in cash instalments and not to disconnect any consumer's installations for any arrears. The Board is also taking action to conduct Departmental enquiry and action against the concerned official for this irregularity.

SRI V. N. PATIL.—I have already asked for clarification. May I know whether the Government will allow the amounts to be paid in instalments of about 20 or 24? The second clarification I need is, up to April 1969 I am told that the rates were below the rates existing now. Therefore it is necessary to instruct the officials to collect at the rates prevailing up to 20th April.

SRI VEERENDRA PATIL.—I have made it clear in my statement that up to November 1969 the meter readings were only imaginary. The concerned person was giving some figures. When the new Meter Reader read the meters the consumption was high. Now the question is what should happen to the difference between the earlier figure and the new figure, that has come to the notice of the Board, after November 1969. With regard to arrears the hon. member desires that the Board should be as liberal as possible and collect in instalments. I shall issue suitable instructions to the authorities.

4-30 P.M.

**Sri V. N. PATIL.**—Now there is difficulty to ascertain exactly what was the amount due till April 1969 and what would be the amount subsequent to that date. Will Government consider it feasible to calculate this demand for 30 months? If the demand for 30 months comes to Rs. 300, and if this amount of Rs. 300 is demanded for a period of 3 months it amounts to an average of Rs. 10 per month. So only the demand pertaining to the months after April 1969 may be calculated at the enhanced rate and the rest may be calculated at the old rate and charged according to the average for those months instead of the entire demand being made at the rate of Rs. 10 per month at the enhanced rate. If the previous demand was only Rs. 5 per month then the demands for the previous months may be calculated at the average for those months as it may not be possible to calculate the exact amount for each month. Will the Chief Minister agree to this solution?

**Sri VEERENDRA PATIL.**—After November 1969 the meter reading is the correct reading and whatever energy the people are consuming, they are paying for it and they have to pay. Now the question is what will happen with regard to the previous years' arrears or the difference and for that I said that I will issue suitable instructions to the Board authorities to collect the arrears in easy instalments. I can only say that I shall ask the Board authorities to be as liberal as possible.

**ಶ್ರೀ ಎಂ. ನಾಗಪ್ಪ.**—ಈ ರೀತಿಯಾಗುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಎರೆಕ್ಟಿನ್ಟಿ ಬೋರ್ಡಿನವರೇ ಕಾರಣ. ಅವರು ಕೊಟ್ಟಿರುವ ಬಿಲ್ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಹಣವನ್ನು ಕನ್ಸ್ಯೂಮರುಗಳು ಪಾವತಿ ಮಾಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಈವಾಗ ಹಿಂದಿನಿಂದ ಅವರು ಹಣ ಕೊಡಬೇಕೆಂದು ಕೇಳುವುದು ಸರಿಯಲ್ಲ. It is not the fault of the consumer; it is the fault of the Board and so I want the Chief Minister to forgo this amount and see that it is not claimed.

**ಶ್ರೀ ವೀರೇಂದ್ರ ಪಾಟೀಲ್.**—ಈಗ ಎಷ್ಟೆಷ್ಟು ಕನ್ಸ್ಯೂಮ್ ಮಾಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ ಎನ್ನುವುದು ಗೊತ್ತಾಗಿದೆ. ನಾನು ಮೊದಲೇ ಹೇಳಿದಂತೆ ಒಂದು ಕಸೆ ಮನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕುಳಿತುಕೊಂಡು ಬರೆದು ಕೊಳ್ಳುತ್ತಿದ್ದೆ. ಈಗ ಮೀಟರ್ ನೋಡಿ ರಿಕಾರ್ಡ್ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ, ಮತ್ತು ಅವರು ಉಪಯೋಗಿಸಿರುವ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಹಣವನ್ನು ವಸೂಲು ಮಾಡಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಹಿಂದಿನದನ್ನು ತಪ್ಪಿಸಿ ಕೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕು ಎಂದು ಹೇಳುವುದು ಸರಿಯಲ್ಲ. ಸರಿಯಾದ ಮೀಟರ್ ರೀಡಿಂಗ್ ತೆಗೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳದೆ ಇದ್ದರೆ ಅದಕ್ಕೆ ಕನ್ಸ್ಯೂಮರ್‌ನದೂ ಜವಾಬ್ದಾರಿ ಇದೆ. ಇಷ್ಟು ನಾನು ಒಳನಿರ್ದೇನೆ, ಇಷ್ಟು ದುಡ್ಡು ಕೊಡಬೇಕು, ಮೀಟರ್ ರೀಡರ್ ಬರಲಿಲ್ಲವಲ್ಲ ಎಂದು ಯೋಚನೆ ಮಾಡಬೇಕಾಗಿತ್ತು. ಅದಿಲ್ಲದೆ ಇಷ್ಟು ದುಡ್ಡು ಉಳಿಯಿತು ಎಂದು ಡ್ಯೂಪ್ ಮಾಡಬೇಕೆಂದು ಕನ್ಸ್ಯೂಮರ್ ಸಹ ಪ್ರಯತ್ನ ಮಾಡುವುದು ಅಷ್ಟೊಂದು ಸಮಂಜಸವಾಗಿ ಕಾಣುವುದಿಲ್ಲ.

**Sri V. N. PATIL.**—There is no question of duping the Board, but the request is only that you collect at the old rate for the previous months and after 1st April 1969 you collect at the enhanced rates. If the total period is 40 months then it should be divided into two parts one prior to 1st April 1969 and the other after 1st April 1969. Then the consumption for the previous period should be charged at the old rate and the consumption for the latter period at the new rate. There is no intention of duping the Board.

**MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER.**—Hon. Chief Minister has already stated that he would issue suitable instructions to the Board.

**SRI V. N. PATIL.**—He will agree with me that it is not the fault of the consumers. It is unfortunate that there was dereliction of duty on the part of some official, but the consumers should not be penalised for that. Without the least intention of duping the Board, the consumers are prepared to pay whatever is legitimately due from them. The only request is that the consumption for the earlier period should be charged at the old rate and the consumption for the subsequent period should be charged at the enhanced rate. Will the Chief Minister give an assurance on that point?

**SRI VEERENDRA PATIL.**—I cannot straightaway commit anything on behalf of the Board. I am very happy as the hon. Member has given a suggestion. I request him to give it in writing. I will call the Chief Engineer of the Electricity Board and I shall discuss the matter with him and try my best to find a solution if it is possible.

**SRI V. N. PATIL.**—Then we are satisfied.

**ಶ್ರೀ ಎಲ್. ಶ್ರೀಕಂಠಯ್ಯ:**—ಮಾನ್ಯ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಮಂತ್ರಿಗಳ ಹೇಳಿಕೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಒಂದು ಅನುಮಾನ ಬಂತು. ಹುಮ್ಮಾಬಾದ್ ದೊಡ್ಡ ಊರು. ಒಂದೆರಡು ಮನೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ತಪ್ಪು ಮಾಡಿದ್ದಾನೆ ಎಂದು ಒಪ್ಪಿಕೊಳ್ಳುತ್ತೇನೆ. ಒಟ್ಟು ಊರಿಗೇ ಮೀಟರ್ ರೀಡರ್‌ನಿಂದ ಮೂರು ವರ್ಷದಿಂದ ತಪ್ಪಾಗಿರು ವಾಗ, ಇದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಮೀಟರ್ ರೀಡರ್ ಜವರೊಡನೆ ಸೇರಿಕೊಂಡು ಮಾಡಿದ ಎಂದು ಹೇಳುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಹೇಗೆ ಆಗುತ್ತದೆ? ಮೀಟರ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಏನಾದರೂ ತಪ್ಪು ಇತ್ತೀ? ಎಲೆಕ್ಟ್ರಿಸಿಟಿ ಬೋರ್ಡಿನ ಅಧಿ ಕಾರಿಗಳು ಮೂರು ವರ್ಷದಿಂದ ಏನು ಮಾಡುತ್ತಿದ್ದರು? ಇದು ಬಹಳ ಆಶ್ಚರ್ಯವಾಗಿ ಕಾಣುತ್ತದೆ.

**ಶ್ರೀ ವೀರೇಂದ್ರ ಪಾಟೀಲ್:**—ಹಿಂದೆ ಒಬ್ಬ ಮೀಟರ್ ರೀಡರ್ ಇದ್ದ. ಆಗ ಇದ್ದಲ್ಲ ಆಗಿದೆ. ಬೇರೆ ಒಬ್ಬ ಮೀಟರ್ ರೀಡರ್ ಹೋಗಿ ರೀಡಿಂಗ್ ತೆಗೆದುಕೊಂಡಾಗ ಇಷ್ಟು ಬಳಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ ಎನ್ನುವುದು ಗೊತ್ತಾಯಿತು. ಹಿಂದೆ ಇದ್ದ ಮೀಟರ್ ರೀಡರ್ ಮೇಲೆ ಡಿಸ್‌ಕಾಂಟ್‌ಮೆಂಟರ್ ಎನ್‌ಕ್ಯೆಪ್ಚರಿ ಪ್ರಾರಂಭ ವಾಗಿದೆ. ಅದರ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಈಗ ನೂ ಹೇಳುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಅವನು ತಪ್ಪುತಪ್ಪಿನಿಂದಾನೆಂದು ಅವನ ಮೇಲೆ ಎನ್‌ಕ್ಯೆಪ್ಚರಿ ನಡೆಯುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಆ ರಿಪೋರ್ಟ್ ಬಂದ ಮೇಲೆ ವಿಚಾರ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಾರೆ.

### Mysore Excise (Amendment) Bill, 1970

*Motion to Consider.*

**MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER.**—The Hon. Minister to move the Bill.

**SRI M. NAGAPPA.**—I rise to a point of order.....

**SRI K. PUTTASWAMY.**—Point of order can arise only when I move the motion. I have been called upon to move and before I move the motion there cannot arise a point of order.

**ಶ್ರೀ ಎಚ್. ಸಿದ್ದವೀರಪ್ಪ.**—ಕಾರ್ಯಕರಾಪ ಸಲಹಾ ಸಮಿತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಎರಡು ಮನೂವೆಗಳಿಗೂ ಒಂದು ದಿವಸ ಎಂದು ಕೊಡಲಾಗಿತ್ತು. ಆದರೆ ಈಗ ನಾಲ್ಕು ಮುಕ್ಕಾಲು ಗಂಟೆಯಾಗಿದೆ. ಒಂದು ಮನೂವೆಯನ್ನು ಮುಡಿಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ನಾವು ಆರು ಗಂಟೆಯ ಮೇಲೆ ಒಂದು ನಿಮಿಷವೂ ಕುಳಿತುಕೊಳ್ಳುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ತಯಾರಿಲ್ಲ. ಈ ದಿನ ಮನೂವೆ ಅಂಗೀಕಾರವಾಗಲು ಸಾಕಷ್ಟು ವೇಳೆ ಇಲ್ಲದೆ ಇದ್ದರೆ ನಾಳೆಯ ದಿನಕ್ಕೆ ಮುಂದಕ್ಕೆ ಹಾಕಬೇಕು.

**ಉಪಾಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು.**—ಆರು ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೂ ನಡೆಯಲಿ, ಅಮೇಲೆ ನೋಡೋಣ.